

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Lansing



January 17, 2017

VIA E-MAIL

Mr. Thomas Poy, Chief Ground Water and Drinking Water Branch United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 77 West Jackson Boulevard (WG-15J) Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Dear Mr. Poy:

Thank you for your November 18, 2016, letter to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance Division (DWMAD), requesting updates on selected noncompliant drinking water systems in Michigan. The spreadsheet you provided identifies 15 Community Water Systems (CWSs) and 39 Noncommunity Water Systems (NCWSs) in noncompliance, for which we have provided comments. In addition, the spreadsheet lists nine CWSs and five NCWSs with lead action level exceedances (ALEs), also updated by MDEQ.

Of the 15 CWSs listed as noncompliant:

- Five returned to compliance;
- Three are making progress toward returning to compliance;
- One is under compliance review; and
- Six have, or will have, State enforcement actions issued against them.

Of the nine CWSs with a lead ALE, six have been resolved and three have not.

Of the 39 NCWSs listed as noncompliant:

- Twelve are arsenic systems on bottled water, which MDEQ will push to treatment;
- Nine water supplies returned to compliance;
- Nine are still out of compliance, either waiting for the next Lead/Copper Rule monitoring period, or are prioritized to receive guidance or escalated enforcement;
- Six have, or will have, State or local health department (LHD) enforcement issued;
 and
- Three have erroneous violations recorded or other data issues that will be corrected.

Of the five NCWSs with a lead ALE, one has been resolved and four have not.

Updates and corrections to the data for all of these water systems will be provided in our quarterly Safe Drinking Water Information System update, due in February 2017.

Mr. Thomas Poy Page 2 January 17, 2017

Your letter also identifies seven CWSs and 20 NCWSs that the MDEQ should consider referring to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for escalated enforcement. At this time, we conclude there are not any good candidates for referral for reasons specified, case-by-case, in the enclosed modification of your spreadsheet.

Of the seven CWS referral candidates suggested by you:

- Three returned to compliance; and
- Four are undergoing State enforcement.

Of the 20 NCWS referral candidates:

- Twelve are arsenic systems on bottled water to receive MDEQ treatment guidance;
- Three returned to compliance;
- Two are the result of invalid violations that will be deleted; and
- Three remain out of compliance, but prioritized for enforcement by LHDs or MDEQ.

If you have further questions, please contact Mr. Dan Dettweiler, Environmental Quality Specialist, Noncommunity Water Supplies Unit, Environmental Health Section, DWMAD, at 517-284-6525; dettweilerd@michigan.gov; or MDEQ, P.O. Box 30241, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7741.

Sincerely,

Bryce Feighner, P.E., Director

Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance Division 517-284-6544

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Thomas Murphy, USEPA

Ms. Dana DeBruyn, MDEQ

Ms. Amy Lachance, MDEQ

Mr. Kris Dorcy, MDEQ

Ms. Kris Philip, MDEQ

Mr. Dan Dettweiler, MDEQ

Ms. Sue Maul, MDEQ

Ms. Deb Ostrander, MDEQ